

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **Bradford et al.**

Serial No.: **Not Assigned**

Filed: **March 12, 2004**

For: **Path Balancing Apparatus and Method**

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Group Art Unit: **2154**

Examiner: **Vu, Viet Duy**

Attorney Docket No.: **99-063-MIX**

**Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 12, 2004.

By:

  
Krista Douthitt

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

No fees are believed to be necessary. If, however, any fees are required, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees to Storage Technology Corporation Deposit Account No. 19-4545. No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is necessary, the extension is requested and I authorize the Commissioner to charge the necessary extension fees to Storage Technology Corporation Deposit Account No. 19-4545.

Prior to examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page one, before the BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION, please insert the following paragraph:

This application is a continuation of application number 09/453,657,  
filed November 17, 1999, status allowed.